



Performance

Food Culture



International Friendship Party

By Narges Mojtahedi, from Iran

The International Friendship Party is one of the major annual events of KUFSA. On Sunday December 11, 2011, KUFSA it was held at the Centennial Hall in Maidashi Campus. A good number of foreign and Japanese students, our sponsors and other non- student guests gathered to end the year with KUFSA in a grandiose style.

Information about the party and the invitation was disseminated through KUFSA's web page, Facebook page, mailing list and posters all around the various campuses. The student guest were told to pick up their tickets from International Student and Researcher Support Centers (ISRSC) in all Kyushu University campuses or make reservation by e-mail. Like in the previous year, a free shuttle bus conveyed guests from Ito Campus to the hall.

The party started at 6:30pm with brief speeches delivered by the KUFSA president and some of our sponsors. Ten teams, from Bangladesh, Canada, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Laos, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam, each prepared two local dishes for our eating pleasure. This year, Halal food was

also available for the first time. A variety of refreshing alcoholic beverages and soft drinks made the party more fun as people mingled and chatted with new friends while gently taking sips of drinks of their choice. After refreshments, wonderful performances from Iran, Laos, Mongolia and Thailand added more colour and excitement to the party. The activities were designed by KUFSA to create a perfect atmosphere for guests to socialize and make new connections.

Towards the end, all guests participated in an amazing lottery and most people won awesome prizes like external hard disks, iPod Shuffles and so on. In the end, KUFSA's next president for the 2012/2013 academic year was unveiled, in the person of Wei Lun Ng, from Malaysia. After the party, a free shuttle bus also conveyed guests back to Ito campus.

KUFSA would like to acknowledge International Student and Researcher Support Centers (ISRSC) and Fukuoka Friendly Club for their great supports. In addition, thanks go out to SOLA members for their invaluable help in making the party a success.





Eating the Japanese Style Food!!!

By Jacqueline Makatiani, from Kenya

My first arrival in Japan was with an endless list of "Things I must experience!" Top on the list and one I could not avoid at all cost, was a meal at a typical Japanese restaurant. I went to one restaurant, sat at a table and gently glanced at a colorful menu provided... with almost all writings in Kanji! A waitress showed up and I shyly pointed at a picture on the menu while mumbling some few words. Somehow, she understood my order perfectly! ...セット (setto, 'set') a word commonly used for standard form of Japanese-style cuisine.

My little knowledge of general etiquette, especially in Japanese setting, gave me some sort of confidence and comfort. Shortly, I was served with yummy dishes. However, I quickly wondered whether I had placed an order for three or so. Wow! That setto comprised of a bowl of miso soup, appetizer, sashimi, simmered, grilled and steamed dishes, plus many other small quantities of individual dishes accompanied by a variety of sauces. While salivating at the numerous small dishes, I freaked out at the thought of

the order to follow in taking them. I could not even figure out what sauce accompanied what dish and more so, which one was the appetizer. Language barrier prevented me from asking questions. I felt uneasy and was afraid of being the subject of so much curious and perhaps negative attention. Being careful not to be noticed, I gently glanced at nearby tables, hoping to mimic other people's eating order. Unfortunately, this proved to be more complicated than I had thought as their foods were either different from mine or if similar, much of it had been consumed. I then decided to eat in the order by which the dishes were arranged on my tray, while ignoring the sauces. This worked, but I ate the `good` dishes first and ended with the `bad` one.

Typical Japanese foods excite me but, uuugggh!!! Getting the correct eating order can be stressful. However, I am still discovering and enjoying Japanese cuisine, with consolation that most Japanese people will not have a negative impression of a foreigner making a few mistakes.



The えええ section of KUFSA's bi-monthly Newsletter... an opportunity to publish your funniest experience in Japan as a foreign student.

Here is what you should do:

If you have interesting stories or experiences you would like to share, send your story to kufsainfo@gmail.com. The limit is 350 words. Please include 2 photos, which should include a personal photograph.

Best stories get published, so what are you waiting for?!



By Jiahui Jiang, from China

On Saturday 26th November, 2011, at 8.00am about 80 international students of Kyushu University and their families set out on a trip by two buses to Nagasaki Prefecture. Thanks to the long distance between Fukuoka and Nagasaki, we had fun making new friends on the buses, and winning prizes while playing exciting games. We arrived at Chinatown after about a 3-hour ride on the buses. The alluring sight of traditional Chinese handicrafts and decorations, not to mention the delicious taste Chinese cuisines made the visit to the small town worthwhile.

Next, we gathered and walked to Glover Garden, which is perched on Minamiyamate hillside overlooking the harbor. It is Nagasaki's foremost tourist attraction. Following the end of national seclusion in 1859, Nagasaki was opened to free trade with foreign countries and merchants of various nationalities flocked to the city. The successful merchants built Western-style mansions, some of which still stand at the original sites and convey the romantic atmosphere of the 19th century. Glover House, built in 1863, is the oldest remaining colonial style building in Japan and has been designated as an important cultural asset. As the house and its surroundings are reminiscent of Puccini's

opera, it is also known as the "Madame Butterfly House."

An ironic and sad twist of history caused the city to suffer from an atomic bomb during World War II. Since that tragedy, Nagasaki has engaged earnestly in a global effort to achieve world peace. A tour to Nagasaki would not be complete without making a stop at the Atomic Bomb Museum and Peace Park. We visited the museum and took a walk in the park. They were meant to show the world the horror of the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki and the need for the pursuit of world peace. With donations from all over the world, in 1955, a giant symbolic statue, the Peace Statue, was constructed in the park. The visit aroused a feeling of empathy and introspection in the students.

In the end, we went to Megami Ohashi Bridge for an awesome night view of Nagasaki. We could not get back to Fukuoka until 9.00pm. It was really an exciting day trip. Thanks to all the hosts and organizers for such an amazing opportunity to share wonderful moments with new friends and acquire knowledge through travel. We look forward to seeing you on the next tour!





It's here again... the Valentine's Day!

By Ekenechukwu Okafor, from Nigeria

The Valentine season is here again, you can feel the frenzy in the air. Valentine's Day, February 14, is a day of celebration of love and affection. Celebrated in various ways in different parts of the world, it is a day of love and romance for some people, and a day of chocolate, roses, and cards for others. However, for many young people, it is a day of bitter desperation and longing for love. They go on about how much better the day would be if they had someone with whom to share it. Why worry?! "Forget love, I'd rather fall in chocolate!" an anonymous genius once proclaimed.

Across the United States, lovers send cards and roses to their sweethearts. Marriage ceremonies and dinner dates are popular and roses are a pricey gift on Valentine's Day. In Nigeria, nothing counts more than a romantic date at one of the exquisite restaurants in town. Gift sharing is also popular, though there is more or less a unidirectional flow of gifts – from men to women.

In Japan, Valentine's Day is celebrated differently. Traditionally, women would give choco-

late to men on Valentine's Day. It is an opportunity for women to directly express interest to men of their choice. There are two common kinds of valentine chocolate; 本命チョコ (honmei choco – "true feelings chocolate") given by women to men they have romantic feelings for, and 義理チョコ (giri choco – "obligatory chocolate") given merely out of a sense of obligation. Honmei choco is costlier and of a higher quality than giri choco.

However, make no mistake about this – the more chocolates you receive on Valentine's Day, the more cookies and candies you will have to send back on White Day – March 14!

In the spirit of the season, here is a Valentine poem for you;

As the Christmas jingles and New Year vibe fade away,
In the heart of winter and the coldest month of the year,
Comes a beautiful season of warm feeling and love,
When we celebrate having each other all along
Having fun in games, parties, travels, and festivals,
And now it's the season of love, so be our Val.

From your Valentine, KUFSA



International Student and Researcher Support Center



Briefing session

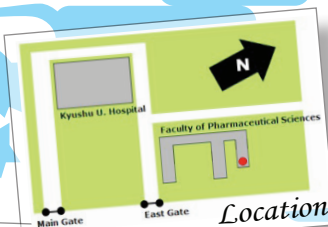
1. Briefing session about New Rules for riding a bicycle and Personal Accident Insurance for students was held in December

Support center hold a briefing session about new rules for riding a bicycle and Personal Accident Insurance for students on December 12.

Higashi police station explained about the basic rules for cyclists and the notification from National Police Agency. The number of traffic accidents caused by cyclists has been increasing, so the National Police Agency revised the regulation that basically cyclists are only allowed to pass the sidewalk that is over 3 meters. But, there are not so many large sidewalks in Fukuoka, so they don't intend to apply this regulation strictly for now. However, they are going to arrest serious and dangerous violators like a brakeless bicycle user.

Also, Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Company explained about three insurances called "Gakkensai", "Gakkenbai" and "Futaigakuso", which are offered by Japan Educational Exchanges and Services. Gakkensai covers self injuries and Gakkenbai covers liabilities when a student hurts someone or breaks someone's possession. The situations covered under Gakkensai and Gakkenbai are limited to university activities and on the way between university and home to do such activities. If you would like to cover your private activities including university activities, you need to join Gakkenbai and Futaigakusou. If you haven't joined any of these kinds of insurances, we highly recommend joining Gakkeisai and Gakkenbai or Futaigakusou to prevent troubles which will disturb your daily life by being liable for a large amount of compensation.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We hope your safety life in Fukuoka!



Hospital Campus
Hospital Support Center

2. Event Information (February – March) *Language: (E) English / (J) Japanese

JOB FAIR on campus for Kyushu University Students provided by Division of Career Support (J)

[Date & Place] February 21 (Tue.) - 23(Thu.) at Central Gymnasium in Kaizuka campus

February 27 (Mon.) - 29 (Wed.) at Gymnasium in Ito campus

[Time] 12:00 - 17:00

<http://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/student/work/seminar/12index2.php>

EUIJ-Kyushu's Environment and Energy Series No.1: IKEA's sustainability and ground heat pumping provided by EUIJ-Kyushu (J)

[Date & Time] February 27 (Mon.) 19:00 - 21:00

[Place] Centennial Hall Kyushu University School of Medicine

<http://www.euij-kyushu.com/>

3. Introduction of each Support Center – No.2 : Hospital Campus –

Hospital Support Center is located in Student Section of the Graduate School/School of Pharmaceutical Sciences on Hospital Campus providing comprehensive support to the international students of faculties; Medical Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Dental Sciences.

[Open Hour] 10:00AM to 5:00PM (MON to FRI, exclude public holidays)

[Contact Information] 092-642-6570 / supportcenter-byo@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

[Comments from Hospital Campus staff]

Hello, everyone! My name is Yuka Hikichi. Please call me "YUKA". I'm very happy to be staff of Support Center because it allows me to meet interesting people from around the world.

At the Support Center I assist international students with visa procedure, providing housing information, residential assistance, interpretation and other assistance upon request. I can help you find ways to get involved in student life on campus.

Please feel free to visit, email or call me with any questions about academics or student life at our university.

Please visit Support Center website!

<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/supportcenter-e/index.html>

留学生家族との交流

Cultural Exchange with International Students and Spouses

2011年度 後期プログラム

場所Place

九州大学留学生センター分室

1F Annex of International Student Center

主催Host

福岡フレンドリークラブ

Fukuoka Friendly Club

活動Activity

日本語教室Japanese Class

Every Wednesday 1300-1430

茶話会Tea Time

Once a Month 14:00-1600

日本人学生さんも、大歓迎！

スケジュール

Schedule

for tea time Japanese Culture

10月12日(水)

ミニ パーティー

Mini Party

11月 2日(水)

バザー

Bazaar (12:30-14:30)

12月 7日(水)

茶道(さどう)

Tea Ceremony

1月 18日(水)

ミニ パーティー

Mini Party

2月 1日(水)

フラワーアレンジメント Flower Arrangement

3月 1日(水)

ひな祭り(ひなまつり)

The Doll's Festival

Fukuoka Friendly Club



Please feel free to contact us at kufsa@ku.ac.jp for any inquiries, comments and suggestions. You may also join our mailing list kufsa-news@groups.google.com for the latest announcements, advisories and event invitations. We hope you can be part of a fruitful year for KUFSA.

Your partner in need,
KUFSA

Our Sponsors



太宰府天満宮



ココロがある。コタエがある。

西日本シティ銀行



and honorable mentionings to:

Kyudai Kai, 九大会, Fukuoka Friendly Club, Fukuoka International Support Center, SOLA.

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